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SELBY
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

1954

SELBY:
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1955

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SELBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman: Councillor W. Webster, J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor C. E. Anson, J.P., C.C.

Medical Officer of Health:

S. KENNAUGH APPLETON, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

J. R. BLACKLEDGE,

Cert. S.I. Board

Cert. Meat and Food Inspection R.S.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

J. B. SAWDON,

Cert. S.I. Board

Clerk: HILARY THOMPSON.

To the **Chairman and Members of the Selby Rural District Council.**

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my eighth Annual Report on the health of the Selby Rural District and the work of the Public Health Department during 1954.

84 live births were notified, giving a Birth Rate of 12.9 per thousand population—this equals the lowest birth rate ever recorded, that for 1933. The Aggregate Rate for W.R. Rural Districts was 16.3, and for England and Wales 15.2.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 23.8 (two deaths) remains satisfactory and compares favourably with the W.R. Rural Rate of 27.2 and the National Rate of 25.5, which was a new low record.

The Crude Death Rate of 10.0 is about the average for recent years. Of the 65 deaths, 30 (45.7%) occurred at the age of 75 years or over, and of these 4 were over 85 years of age.

The notifiable infectious diseases totalled only 25, almost half being whooping cough. Two cases of acute anterior poliomyelitis occurred amongst newly arrived service personnel at the Brayton Camp. The camp was placed in quarantine and no other cases occurred.

The sale of National Welfare Foods was transferred on the 28th June, 1954, from the Ministry of Food Offices to the Local Health Authority. Supplies are obtainable from the W.V.S. Centre and Brook Lodge Gatehouse in Selby, and in Cawood by the kind assistance of Mrs. C. E. Anson.

Much concern was expressed by the Council during the year at the impossibility of obtaining institutional accommodation for imbecile children who, besides being a danger to themselves and to others, seriously disrupt the lives of their families and drive their parents to distraction and eventual breakdown. Frequent representations by the Local Health Authority result only in an occasional short stay admission which gives these families slight relief but no hope.

It seems pertinent to ask whether this waiting for casual death vacancies is the best that Hospital Boards can do in this enlightened age for these tragically handicapped and handicapping children.

In conclusion, I express my thanks to the Members and Officials of the Council for their interest and assistance during 1954.

I remain, Your obedient servant,

S. KENNAUGH APPLETON,
Medical Officer of Health.

June, 1955.

GENERAL STATISTICS, 1954

Area of Rural District	33,304 acres
Population (mide 1954)	6,530
Number of Inhabited Houses	1,905
Rateable Value	£29,115
Product of Penny Rate (March 1955)	£115 6 4

VITAL STATISTICS.

	SELBY R.D.	Aggregate West Riding R.D.s	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (Provisional)
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 population)	12.9	16.3	15.1	15.2
CRUDE DEATH RATES (per 1,000 population)				
All causes	10.0	9.9	11.9	11.3
Infective & Parasitic Diseases	0.15	0.08	0.08	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis	0	0.12	0.16	0.16
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	0	0.02	0.02	0.02
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	1.07	1.08	1.22	—
Cancer	1.84	1.70	2.01	2.04
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	3.83	3.64	4.54	—
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	1.38	1.33	1.84	—
INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	23.8	27.2	28.0	25.5
STILLBIRTHS	56.2	24.2	25.9	23.4
INFANT DIARRHOEA (Deaths under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births)	0	—	—	0.8
MATERNAL MORTALITY (Deaths of mothers in childbirth per 1,000 total births)	0	1.10	0.89	0.69

Comparability Factors:

For Births, 1.10. Adjusted Birth Rate, 14.2.
For Deaths, 0.99. Adjusted Death Rate, 9.9.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR TEN YEARS.

BIRTH RATE
(per 1,000 population)

1954	....	13.5						
1953	....	13.1	1950	....	15.3	1947	....	19.3
1952	....	14.6	1949	....	18.9	1946	....	20.8
1951	....	15.2	1948	....	17.2	1945	....	17.7

STILLBIRTHS
(per 1,000 total births)

1954	....	53.8						
1953	....	22.2	1950	....	20.6	1947	....	26.1
1952	....	20.2	1949	....	41.7	1946	....	32.3
1951	....	38.8	1948	....	28.0	1945	....	19.8

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS
(per 1,000 total births)

1954	....	118.2						
1953	....	66.6	1950	....	82.5	1947	....	104.4
1952	....	40.4	1949	....	75.0	1946	....	—
1951	....	58.3	1948	....	64.4	1945	....	158.4

TOTAL DEATH RATE
(per 1,000 population)

1954	....	10.0						
1953	....	8.5	1950	....	14.1	1947	....	11.5
1952	....	10.3	1949	....	10.0	1946	....	11.8
1951	....	13.4	1948	....	11.2	1945	....	12.7

INFECTIVE AND PARASITIC DISEASES

1954	....	0						
1953	....	0	1950	....	0	1947	....	0.17
1952	....	0.15	1949	....	0	1946	....	0
1951	....	0	1948	....	0	1945	....	0

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

1954	....	0						
1953	....	0.15	1950	....	0.16	1947	....	1.03
1952	....	0	1949	....	0.16	1946	....	0.35
1951	....	0.15	1948	....	0.33	1945	....	0.36

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

1954	....	0						
1953	....	0.15	1950	....	0	1947	....	0.34
1952	....	0	1949	....	0.16	1946	....	0
1951	....	0.15	1948	....	0.17	1945	....	0.36

RESPIRATORY DISEASES

1954	....	1.07						
1953	....	0.90	1950	....	1.13	1947	....	1.20
1952	....	1.06	1949	....	1.64	1946	....	1.04
1951	....	2.00	1948	....	0.83	1945	....	1.79

CANCER

1954	....	1.84						
1953	....	1.49	1950	....	2.09	1947	....	1.75
1952	....	1.81	1949	....	1.64	1946	....	1.64
1951	....	1.39	1948	....	1.65	1945	....	2.15

HEART AND CIRCULATORY DISEASES

1954	....	3.83						
1953	....	2.99	1950	....	5.95	1947	....	2.06
1952	....	3.02	1949	....	2.95	1946	....	2.61
1951	....	5.39	1948	....	3.64	1945	....	3.40

INFANTILE MORTALITY

(per 1,000 live births)

1954	....	22.7						
1953	....	22.7	1950	....	73.7	1947	....	26.8
1952	....	10.3	1949	....	8.8	1946	....	33.3
1951	....	10.1	1948	....	28.8	1945	....	30.0

MATERNAL MORTALITY

(per 1,000 total births)

1954	....	0						
1953	....	0	1950	....	10.3	1947	....	0
1952	....	0	1949	....	0	1956	....	0
1951	....	0	1948	....	0	1945	....	0

BIRTHS, 1954.

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births.—Legitimate	34	40	74
Illegitimate	6	4	10
Total	40	44	84
Stillbirths	3	2	5

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1954.

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (Oother forms)	0	0	0
Cancer	4	8	12
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	3	6	9
Heart Diseases	14	11	25
Other diseases of circulatory system	0	0	0
Bronchitis	4	2	6
Syphilitic Disease	1	0	1
Pneumonia	1	0	1
Diabetes	0	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	2	0	2
Suicide	1	0	1
Nephritis	0	1	1
Motor Accidents	1	0	1
Other Accidents	0	0	0
All other causes	1	4	5
Total	32	33	65

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases in 1954.

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	2	3	5
Non-Pulmonary	0	0	0
Total	2	3	5

Total cases on Register.

Pulmonary	7	8	15
Non-Pulmonary	0	5	5
Total	7	13	20

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

One death from Congenital cause—under 1 week old.
One death from Broncho-Pneumonia—at 8 months.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
notified during the year 1954.

Notifiable Disease.	Number of Cases Notified								Deaths
	At all Ages.	According to Age							
		Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	Over 65	
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	..	..	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	1	...	..	...	...	...	1	...	...
Scarlet Fever	3	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	..	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	..	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis, paralytic ...	1	...	...	..	1	...	...	...	...
,, ,, non-paralytic ...	1	...	..	...	1	...	...	...	...
Acute Encephalitis	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	...	...	1	...	...	1	..	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
Measles	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Primary Pneumonia	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Influenzal Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	13	...	4	5	2	1	1	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	25	...	7	9	4	2	3	...	1

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1949.

Section 47.

No action was required under this section of the Act during 1954.

PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION No. 10

The County Districts forming Division No. 10 are:—

Goole Borough	Selby Urban
Goole Rural	Selby Rural

Area of the Division (in acres)	....	....	76,692
Population (estimated mid-1954)	....	....	45,280

Divisional Staff:

Divisional Medical Officer and Divisional School Medical Officer:
S. KENNAUGH APPLETON, M.D., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Assistant County Medical Officers and School Medical Officers:
EILEEN M. R. BELL-SYER, M.B., B.S.
MURIEL J. LOWE, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.C.H

School Dental Officers:
P. F. A. ELTOME, L.D.S.
G. O. WOOD, L.D.S. (Divisions 10 and 9).

Health Visitors and School Nurses:
Miss D. M. BUTLER, Miss J. DAVIS, Mrs. M. DODSON, Mrs. M. HARGREAVES, Mrs. M. KELLY, Mrs. L. PRATT, Miss A. RIDSDALE, Miss F. WELFORD.

Home Nurses:
Miss P. K. AGER, Mrs. A. BLACKBURN, Mrs. S. CLAYBOURN Mrs. W. E. DUFFIN, Mrs. L. A. POLLARD, Miss J. POWELL, Miss M. WHITTAKER.

Domiciliary Midwives:
Mrs. E. BALLANCE, Miss I. CAMPBELL, Mrs. M. COLLIER, Miss M. I. GILHOME, Mrs. M. E. HORNSHAW, Miss H. A. HOUGHTON, Mrs. L. KITCHEN, Miss M. KNIVETON, Miss M. ROBINSON, Miss A. TOLSON, Miss E. WHITLEY.

Mental Health:
Miss E. T. SIMONS (Social Worker, Divisions 10 and 12)
Mrs. C. HOPKINS (Home Teacher, Division 10)

Physiotherapy:
Miss E. ALDERSON (Part-time).

Duly Authorised Officer:
Mr. T. G. FOSTER.

Clerical:
Senior Clerk: Mr. R. TOWELL.
Miss S. L. BRAMHAM, Miss F. A. CAMPBELL, Mr. H. DODSON, Mr. G. N. NOWILL, Miss B. REED, Miss J. E. SMAJE, Miss M. E. WORMALD.

WEST RIDING COUNTY DIVISIONAL HEALTH SEVICES IN SELBY RURAL DISTRICT, 1954.

The Public Health Nursing Staff in this Division no longer works according to County District boundaries. Most of the figures in the following summaries refer to Selby R.D., but in a few cases the figures are those for the Rural and Urban Districts combined or for Division No. 10 as a whole.

1. BIRTHS.

Live Births	84
Stillbirths	5
Illegitimate	11
Males	40
Females	44

2. PREMATURE BABIES. Babies weighing 5½ lbs. or less at birth.

(i) Born at home	Alive	0
	Stillborn	2
(ii) Born in an institution	Alive	3
	Stillborn	1
Total		6

3. HEALTH VISITING (Selby U.D. and R.D.)

	First Visits	Other Visits	Total
Expectant Mothers	75	136	211
Children under 1	260	2958	3218
Children between 1 and 5	844	1745	2589
Other cases	—	905	905
Total	1179	5744	6923

4. CHILD WELFARE CLINIC (WEST BANK)

(a) Total number of children under 5 yrs. of age who first attended the Clinic during the year, and who at the date of their first attendance were under 1 year 8

(b) Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended the Clinic during the year and who at the end of the year were:

(i) under 1 year	4
(ii) over 1 year	16

Number of Sessions held:

West Bank	11
Total attendance	88
Average per session	8

In addition 23 children made 149 visits to other Child Welfare Centres in the Division.

5. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Total number attending Paediatric Consultant	4
Total number attending Orthopaedic Surgeon	8
Total number attending County Oculist	112
Number ordered Spectacles	32
Number attending Speech Therapy	9
Total number inspected in School by School M.O.	328
Total number inspected in School by School Nurse	1216
Total number of verminous heads	27
Tests for mental defects, primary	4
Re-examinations	5
Reported to M.D. Authority as ineducable	0
Reported to M.D.A. for supervision	4
Recommended for special schools	2
Attending special schools	0
Recommended for Child Guidance	2

The following defects were found at medical inspections:

	Requiring treatment	For observation
Verminous heads	27	0
Skin	0	0
Vision	20	20
Other eye conditions	0	1
Hearing	0	1
Other ear defects	0	1
Nose and throat	6	5
Speech	0	3
Cervical glands	2	0
Heart and circulation	0	1
Lungs	0	0
Developmental	0	0
Orthopaedic	6	5
Nervous System	0	3
Psychological	11	4
Other conditions	1	1

6. MATERNITY SERVICES.

Ante-natal Clinics:

	First Visits	Total Visits	Mothers attending
West Bank	3	5	3
Goole	0	0	0
Selby	16	74	25
Snaith	10	36	11

Mothers Confined in Hospital:

Leeds Maternity Home	8
York Maternity Home	17
Goole Borough Maternity Home	6
Others	4
Total	35

County Midwives.

There were 48 domiciliary confinements in Selby Rural District in 1954.

The following summary of the work of the County Midwives is for Division 10 as a whole:—

Number of Cases	419
Number of Visits	13024
Gas and air analgesia	281
Number of midwives	11

7. HOME NURSING (Division 10 as a whole).

Number of Cases	596
Number of Visits	15773

8. HOME HELPS.

Home Helps were employed for 1,537 hours attending the following cases:—

Lying-in and Expectant Mothers	16
Illness	8
Aged	0
Total	14

9. IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA during 1954

Children under 5 years	56
Children over 5 years	27
	83
Booster doses	97
Total	180

Total number of children under 15 years of age who have been immunised up to the 31st December, 1954:

Age—Years	0—1	1—4	5—9	10—14	Under 15 Total
Number	26	160	538	493	1217
Percentage	39.9		100		86.5

10. IMMUNISATION AGAINST WHOOPING COUGH 1954

	During 1954	Up to Dec., 1954
Under 6 months	0	1
6 to 12 months	35	
1 to 2 years	14	35
2 to 3 years	1	11
3 to 4 years	2	10
	52	57

11. MENTAL HEALTH.

(a) Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938.

The number of mentally defective persons under supervision at the end of 1954 was as follows:

	Male	Female	Total
Under Guardianship	0	0	0
Under Statutory Supervision	6	5	11
Under Voluntary Supervision	0	1	1
On Licence from Institutions	0	0	0

(b) Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890-1930.

Admissions to Mental Hospitals by the Duly Authorised Officer during 1954 were as follows:

	Male	Female	Total
Voluntary Patients	1	2	3
By Temporary Order	0	0	0
By "Three Day" Order	0	0	0
By Summary Reception Order	0	0	0
	1	2	3
Referred for action but proceedings unnecessary	0	1	1

12. COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The following are the details of patients from Division No. 10 carried by the W.R.C.C ambulances during 1954:

	Selby	Goole
Maternity cases	114	213
Accident cases	140	337
Other cases	5013	14930
Journeys made	2280	4890
Total patients carried	5267	15480
Mileage travelled	77297	100560

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR
for 1954.

Water Supply.

Mains water is supplied to all parishes by the Council, which is the water undertaker for the whole of the District.

Water is purchased in bulk from Selby Urban District Council, and is obtained from deep boreholes in the red sandstone at Brayton Barff, which is situated in the Selby Rural District.

Chlorination is carried out at the source, but no other treatment has been found necessary. No complaints as to quality have been made during the year, and samples taken have all been reported satisfactory for drinking and domestic purposes.

Apart from small mains extensions on several Council housing sites, no new mains were laid during 1954. Following complaints of inadequate pressure in the Cawood and Wistow areas, an investigation has shown that the present main is incapable of supplying the demand at peak periods, and a scheme for augmenting the supply to these parishes has been prepared and submitted for approval to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

There are no sewage disposal works owned by the Council in the District, with the exception of five small plants dealing with effluent from Council housing sites.

Three disposal plants are operated by Service Departments in the District, but these treat only sewage from Service properties.

Treatment generally throughout the district consists of septic tanks, the effluent being discharged into open dikes; there are at Cawood, however, several outfalls directly into the River Ouse. Protracted negotiations have postponed the fruition of disposal schemes in Carlton and Barlow. Owing to the lack of satisfactory sewage disposal arrangements in these parishes holding up the erection of new Council houses, it is to be hoped that these proposed schemes will materialise

during 1955. Pollution of the dikes remains a serious problem, and until adequate disposal arrangements are provided it is only possible to minimise the nuisance by frequent cleansing of these water courses.

De-sludging septic and settling tanks has for long been a most unsatisfactory process, and it is pleasing to note that the Council have decided to acquire a cesspool emptying vehicle for this work.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

House Refuse is collected throughout the district by direct labour, with two 7 cubic yard collection vehicles, and the service has been satisfactorily maintained.

Disposal is effected on five tips at widely dispersed points, and every endeavour is made to keep the tips in satisfactory condition. In this, the efforts of the Council's workmen are often defeated by throughtless persons indiscriminately dumping rubbish on the tip during the absence of the workmen.

Housing and Public Health Inspections.

Routine inspection of house property is carried out as circumstances permit, and complaints are investigated without delay.

Remedies are effected largely by a personal visit to the owner and, in appropriate cases, informal notices are served.

No circumstances have arisen which have necessitated statutory action by the Council.

Inspection of property with a view to demolition of unfit houses has been recommenced, and by August, 1955, it is hoped to have completed the survey of properties requiring action under Sctions 11 and 25 of the Housng Act, 1936.

The improvement of houses under the Housing Act, 1949, has attracted little attention, and grants have been made in only two instances.

No of houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action	20
Sanitary inspection under Public Health Acts	41
Housing inspections	209
Inspections for Pests	427
Other inspections	40

Food Inspection.

The standard of cleanliness in food shops has been maintained at a satisfactory level, and no action has been necessary apart from verbal advice.

There are no ice cream manufacturing premises in the district, but a number of traders are licensed to sell prepacked ice cream.

The three dairies in the district subject to the Council's supervision have been well maintained.

Meat Inspection.

There are six licensed slaughterhouses in the district, all of which are kept in a satisfactory manner. Inspection of all food animals slaughtered for human consumption is regularly carried out, and since the decontrol of meat rationing, the following number of carcases have been inspected:—

Animals inspected from 6th July to 31st December, 1954:

Bullocks 76; Heifers 5; Sheep 155; Pigs 95.

Condemnation for Disease:

Bullocks.	130 lbs.	for Tuberculosis.
	20 lbs.	for echinococcus cysts.
	63 lbs.	for liver fluke.
	11 lbs.	for abscess.
	224 lbs.	
Sheep.	98 lbs.	for injury.
Pigs.	14 lbs.	for Tuberculosis.
	7 lbs.	for echinococcus cysts.
	17 lbs.	for fatty degeneration.
	38 lbs.	

Total weight condemned—360 lbs.

Other Food Condemned:

10 barrels Dry Egg Powder, each 175 lbs.=1750 lbs.

Owing to the comparatively small amount of meat condemned, it is not an economical proposition to salvage it, and by arrangement with the Superintendent at Selby Baths, this material is destroyed by burning in the Baths furnace.

Rodent Control.

The Council employ a Rodent Operative on a part-time basis, and complaints are dealt with as they arise.

The refuse tips are given regular attention, and a good liaison is maintained with the County Pests Department regarding agricultural holdings.

No major infestation has been reported during the year, and a comparatively small number of complaints in respect of domestic premises have been satisfactorily dealt with

New Housing.

New houses have been erected or are in source of erection within the district, as follows:—

By Council		By Private Developers	
Completed	In Course of Erection	Completed	In Course of Erection
38	Nil	17	13

Factories Act, 1947.

No. of Factories with mechanical power	8
No. of Factories without mechanical power	Nil
No. of inspections	8
Contraventions	Nil